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13 March 1969

COVERT COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION'S COMMENTS ON VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS SUGGESTION

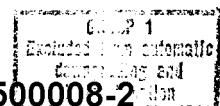
1. The use of video tape recorders for the types of applications noted in the paper is already under consideration. While OC-OS was still in existence, considerable time was spent thinking about uses of video tape, for both staff and covert training applications. It was agreed that [REDACTED] would purchase one video system to begin experimental usage, with the idea that covert training uses would follow pending the outcome at [REDACTED]. It developed that TEMPEST problems prohibited the use of the equipment for classified subjects, and the use of the video system was restricted to unclassified uses at [REDACTED] for the time being.

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2. Further planning on the use of video recorders for covert training or for Headquarters and overseas training and briefing on covert communications subject matter is contingent on resolving the TEMPEST problem.

3. We have no quarrel with the list of possible applications outlined in the paper. However, the latter half of the paper (primarily the concept of an Office of Video Communications) seems to be impractical. Too much emphasis is placed on the mechanical aspects of the problem (i.e., the equipment and studio) rather than on the substantive aspects such as the development and production of the program material. OTR has a capability now for producing motion pictures but one which is limited by man hours available to devote to the program material; the cameras, film and projectors (which could be replaced by video equipment) are only a minor part of the problem. While some centralized technical management of video equipment would be necessary and central studio and program facilities would be desirable, the operational use of video equipment may be best done on a decentralized basis...where the equipment is needed.



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SPECIAL PROGRAMS DIVISION'S COMMENTS ON VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS SUGGESTION

1. On the surface, the proposal for Video Communications seems to provide an efficient means of communications. After looking into the detail, and applying systems analysis to the problem, there is more than meets the eye. Some of these are listed below:

a. The total costs are not outlined, such as maintenance in the field as well as Headquarters. What is the cost for space and operating personnel? Installation costs with inherent TDY travel is not included. Pouching heavy tapes increases cost of couriers, etc. Cost of tape alone had not been considered.

b. Video tapes will not be a part of the using office's file; thus, dispatches or transcripts are necessary anyway.

c. TEMPEST problems will have to be corrected. The cost of testing and countermeasures should be included to be realistic.

2. To state that the video system would not be useful would be in error. In SPD, however, it would be used in addition to, and not in place of, other forms of communications such as cables, dispatches and personal visits.

3. Since any kind of formal communication is edited, the very thing that personal contact gives us is eliminated, i.e., give and take, informal discussion and meeting the people in the setting. Although the system may be useful, it would not replace any form of communication now used, and above all it couldnot, by its formal nature, replace person-to-person contact in the environment.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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STAFF COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION'S COMMENTS ON VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS SUGGESTION

1. If such a system were readily, and economically, available it might be used in SCD for:

a. From Headquarters:

(1) Yearly productions of the program calls for distribution to Area Headquarters.

(2) A series of briefings on new systems such as ACT, SIDES, MAX, etc., to minimize/eliminate training and scheduling problems for on-site operations and maintenance personnel.

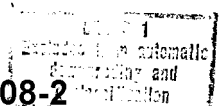
(3) Canned briefings on on-going programs such as world-wide secure voice to recoup many man hours per year spent indoctrinating new personnel, other components, etc.


b. From the field:

On-site surveys of facilities, operations, and peculiar problems relating to new systems design.

2. The only logical conclusion is that there are several already available techniques for performing the same functions. CCTV is more appealing only if it is much easier to use in terms of time and money expended. We believe that the cost estimates are low, especially for the field station installation. CCTV equipments are noted for their high levels of radio frequency radiation and, therefore, present a TEMPEST hazard. This would certainly have to be taken into account in any overseas installations.

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	TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN				(Do Not Write in This Space)	
	THE ACCEPTANCE BY ME OF A CASH AWARD FOR THIS SUGGESTION SHALL CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT THAT THE USE OF THE SUGGESTION BY THE UNITED STATES SHALL NOT FORM THE BASIS OF A FURTHER CLAIM OF ANY NATURE UPON THE UNITED STATES BY ME, MY HEIRS, OR ASSIGNS.				INCENTIVE AWARDS BRANCH 25X1A JAN 27 11 06 AM '69	
	DATE		NAME OF SUGGESTER			
	Jan 24, 1969		[REDACTED]			
POSITION TITLE		GRADE				
[REDACTED]		Analyst / OEL/AND		GS-10		
HQ S O N L Y	ROOM	BUILDING	OFF/DIV/BRANCH			
	GE-78	HDQ	AND/OEL/DDS&T			
	TELEPHONE	IF CONSULTATION IS REQUIRED, MAY WE REFER YOUR NAME TO THE EVALUATOR?		X	YES	HQ S O N L Y
4378				NO		
TITLE OR SUBJECT OF SUGGESTION			CLASSIFICATION		SUGGESTION NO.	
Cutting Costs & Improving Communications Within The Agency			SECRET		69-223 TWO	
PRESENT METHOD						
SEE ENCLOSED PROPOSAL						
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